

Chapter 7 Practice Test

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

1. Many buildings in Mexico City are tilting because parts of the city are built on steep hillsides.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Because urbanization has proceeded so slowly during the last century, social development is a constant challenge in Mexico.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. Corporate logging and the clearing of land for agriculture are the leading causes of deforestation in Mexico.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. The goal of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is to protect biodiversity and promote knowledge about biodiversity.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. Because Mexico has plenty of land for farming, ranchers and farmers are being asked to donate land for reforestation.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

6. People whose ancestry includes both indigenous and Spanish heritage are
 - a. creoles.
 - b. mestizos.
 - c. indios.
 - d. peninsulares.

7. What is the largest natural lake in Mexico?
 - a. Lake Quechulac
 - b. Lake Catemaco
 - c. Lake Chapala
 - d. Lake Texcoco

8. Mexico is also a leading _____ producer, which is used to produce much of Mexico's power supply.
 - a. coal
 - b. petroleum
 - c. biofuel
 - d. hydrogen-cell

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9. Why is Mexico City considered to be a primate city?
 - a. It is the primary destination for immigrants to Mexico.
 - b. It is the largest city and the political, cultural, and economic center of Mexico.
 - c. It is the capital city.
 - d. It is the most populous city in North America.
10. Of what precious mineral is Mexico the world's leading producer?
 - a. silver
 - b. mercury
 - c. gold
 - d. zinc
11. Vertical climate zones in Mexico are zones in which
 - a. a subtropical climate supports rain forests.
 - b. most of the land has become chaparral.
 - c. natural vegetation and crops vary by elevation.
 - d. coastal areas suffer from erosion.
12. _____ led the Spanish forces that invaded and conquered the _____ in Mexico.
 - a. Hernán Cortés; Inca
 - b. Francisco Pizarro; Inca
 - c. Hernán Cortés; Aztec
 - d. Francisco Pizarro; Aztec
13. Diego Rivera was a Mexican artist who
 - a. carved huge statues in the tradition of the Olmec.
 - b. wove elaborate tapestries depicting ancient Mexican cultures.
 - c. painted murals, often depicting political and historical themes.
 - d. was a pioneer in the abstract expressionism movement.
14. Mexico's location on the Gulf of Mexico enabled a large _____ industry to develop.
 - a. automotive
 - b. fishing
 - c. ship-building
 - d. textile
15. In Mexico, parents and children often share their home with
 - a. extended family.
 - b. boarders and tenants.
 - c. neighbors and friends.
 - d. livestock.

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16. *Tierra helada, tierra fría, tierra templada, and tierra caliente* are examples of
- tropical storms.
 - regional biomes.
 - seasonal winds.
 - vertical climate zones.
17. Because of its typical climate pattern, ranchers who graze cattle on the Northern Plateau anxiously await _____ each year.
- rain
 - El Niño
 - the Santa Ana winds
 - the first frost
18. During the colonial period, a blending of indigenous beliefs and Catholicism occurred in Mexico in a process called
- symbiosis.
 - synthesis.
 - symbolism.
 - syncretism.
19. Northern Mexico has a _____ biome in which cacti, shrubs, and shrub oak grow.
- tundra
 - chaparral
 - grassland
 - savanna
20. Most of the food grown in Mexico comes from the _____, where there is also greater population density.
- Central Plateau
 - Southern Highlands
 - Gulf Coast Plain
 - Sierra Madre Occidental
21. One criticism of the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) program has been that it
- is plagued by political corruption.
 - enables companies to buy carbon credits rather than reduce pollution.
 - unduly favors indigenous peoples and other forest communities.
 - fails to provide financial incentives to achieve its goals.
22. In semi-arid regions of Mexico, global climate change has caused
- increased cloud cover.
 - more violent thunderstorms.
 - more frequent flooding.
 - increased desertification.

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23. One effect of land subsidence is the creation of
- oases.
 - sinkholes.
 - new biomes.
 - estuaries.
24. Regional high-pressure systems in northern Mexico occasionally cause
- hurricanes.
 - droughts.
 - tornadoes.
 - flooding.
25. What caused land subsidence in Mexico City?
- coastal erosion
 - the draining of underground water reserves
 - the clearing of vegetation native to the region
 - desertification
26. When a large urban area such as Mexico City dominates the country's political, cultural, and economic affairs, it is called a
- primate city.
 - world city.
 - megacity.
 - megalopolis.
27. The mayor of Mexico City launched programs to reduce pollution in the city by
- banning the burning of fossil fuels within city limits.
 - requiring commuters to carpool, or ride-share.
 - encouraging more use of bicycles.
 - constructing additional highway lanes.
28. Northern Mexico has a _____ climate.
- tropical
 - subtropical
 - dry
 - Mediterranean
29. Foreign-owned factories located in Mexico along the border with the United States are called
- encomiendas.
 - haciendas.
 - empresarios.
 - maquiladoras.

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30. _____ is technological and economic growth that does not deplete the human and natural resources of a given area.
- Sustainable development
 - Ecotourism
 - Syncretism
 - Laissez-faire capitalism
31. What early civilization in Mexico engaged in long-distance trade and built huge stone cities that had been abandoned by the time the Spanish arrived?
- the Olmec
 - the Aztec
 - the Zapotec
 - the Maya
32. Mexico City's geography makes air pollution a greater problem because it is located
- on a mountainside, where the air is thinner.
 - in a valley, which often traps carbon emissions.
 - on the coast, which creates the heat island effect.
 - on a plain, so there is little wind to disperse the pollution.
33. Which of the following is contributing to desertification in northern Mexico?
- an increase in drought in recent years
 - the increasing demands for water in southern Mexico
 - land subsidence in Mexico City
 - the clear-cutting of the rain forests of northern Mexico
34. In Mexico City, residents have been encouraged to use bicycles in order to
- end the obesity epidemic.
 - raise money for charity.
 - reduce air pollution in the city.
 - increase highway safety.
35. What political party has dominated Mexican politics since 1929?
- the *Partido Nacional Revolucionario* (PNR)
 - the *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* (PRI)
 - the *Partido Reformista Social* (PRS)
 - the *Partido Acción Nacional* (PAN)
36. Southern Mexico is part of a _____ that connects North America and South America.
- crossroads
 - peninsula
 - steppe
 - land bridge

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37. Why is water scarcity a growing issue in Mexico?
- It has a large and growing population and is flanked by large bodies of water to the east and west.
 - It has a large and growing population and only a few major rivers and lakes.
 - It has a mostly rural population and is flanked by large bodies of water to the east and west.
 - It has a mostly rural population and only a few major rivers and lakes.
38. Which of the following are two causes of deforestation in Mexico?
- corporate logging and the clearing of land for agriculture
 - the clearing of land for agriculture and acid rain
 - corporate logging and the acid rain
 - acid rain and a growing population
39. Why is western Mexico subject to volcanic eruptions?
- because deep fissures were created during the last ice age
 - because it borders the Mariana Trench
 - because it is at the juncture of several tectonic plates
 - because it is in the path of El Niño
40. In Mexico, many people live with their _____, which includes different generations of a family, as well as cousins and other relatives.
- blended family
 - nuclear family
 - heterogamous family
 - extended family

Enter the appropriate word(s) to complete the statement.

41. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into effect, many _____ have been built near Mexico's border with the United States.
42. The ancient _____ built huge stone cities in the Yucatan Peninsula and engaged in trade with peoples in Central America.
43. From their capital, Tenochtitlan, the ancient _____ ruled over peoples they had conquered.
44. In the colonial era, the Spanish took over large tracts of land to raise cash crops such as _____ and maize.
45. For much of the 1800s, Mexico was ruled over by a series of military _____ known as *caudillos*.

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- a. mestizo
 - b. syncretism
 - c. conquistador
 - d. free trade zone
 - e. deforestation
 - f. land subsidence
 - g. vertical climate zone
 - h. seismic
 - i. cash crop
 - j. gross domestic product
46. a Spanish soldier who participated in conquest of indigenous peoples of Mexico
47. a climate area that occurs as elevation increases, with its own natural vegetation and crops
48. the value of goods and services produced within a country in a year
49. the loss or destruction of woodlands, mainly for logging or farming
50. relating to or caused by an earthquake
51. a person of mixed indigenous and European ancestry
52. the downward shifting of land in response to various natural and human-caused factors
53. the combining of beliefs and practices from different religions
54. an area of a country in which trade restrictions do not apply
55. a farm product grown to be sold or traded
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- a. Gulf of Mexico
 - b. silver
 - c. Gulf of California
 - d. chaparral
 - e. petroleum
56. separates the Baja Peninsula from the northern coast of Mexico
57. precious mineral of which Mexico is the world's leading producer
58. body of water that forms Mexico's east coast
59. product that fuels most of Mexico's power plants
60. biome of northern Mexico in which cacti, shrubs, and shrub oak grow

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- a. Mexican Plateau
- b. primate city
- c. Aztec
- d. chaparral
- e. megacity
- f. land bridge
- g. sustainable development
- h. desertification
- i. Maya
- j. Rio Grande

61. a great city that is made up of several large and small cities
62. technological and economic growth that does not deplete the human and natural resources of a given area
63. the flat inland area between the Sierra Madres
64. the process through which arable land becomes dry and can support little or no vegetation
65. an early Mexican civilization that was centered in the Yucatan Peninsula
66. a strip of land that connects two larger landmasses, enabling the migration of plants and animals
67. an early Mexican civilization whose capital was on the site of present-day Mexico City
68. an urban area that dominates a country’s economy, culture, and government and in which population is concentrated
69. the river that forms part of the border between Mexico and the United States
70. the type of biome found in northern Mexico, with cool, wet winters and hot, dry summers
71. Select two environmental issues faced by Mexico today that were discussed in the chapter. Write a paragraph about each issue explaining the causes and effects of the problems.
72. Based on the chart and information in the chapter, write a paragraph describing the ethnic composition of Mexico today and explain how it reflects Mexico’s colonial heritage.

Mexico: Ethnic Groups	
Mestizo	60%
Indigenous/Amerindian or predominantly Indigenous/Amerindian	30%
White	9%
Other	1%

Source: CIA World Factbook, 2013

73. Write an essay with at least two paragraphs in which you explain the environmental impact of Mexico’s growing population. Focus on at least two environmental issues directly related to population growth.

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“While the Spaniards were in Tlaxcala, a great plague broke out here in Tenochtitlan. It began to spread during the thirteenth month [of the Aztec calendar] and lasted for seventy days, striking everywhere in the city and killing a vast number of our people. Sores erupted on our faces, our breasts, our bellies; we were covered with agonizing sores from head to foot.”

—Miguel León Portilla, editor, *The Broken Spears: The Aztec Account of the Conquest of Mexico*, 1990

74. Miguel León Portilla compiled *The Broken Spears* from surviving Aztec accounts of the Spanish conquest. In the excerpt above, the “plague” referenced is believed to have been an outbreak of smallpox. Read the quote and write a paragraph discussing how the arrival of Spanish conquistadors influenced the indigenous population in that time and has continued to impact the region since that time.
75. Based on the chart and information in the chapter, write a paragraph describing the development of Mexico’s ethnic composition today. How might the fact that over a million people cross the border of the United States, as well as other factors that impact Mexico’s ethnic composition in the future?

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